



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

April 14, 2009

The Honorable Board of Directors
Los Angeles County
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE COUNTY EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE
TO THE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND
AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR
THE CHARLES S. FARNSWORTH PARK REFURBISHMENT PROJECT
(FIFTH DISTRICT) (3 - VOTE MATTER)**

SUBJECT

These actions will allocate County Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District to the Department of Parks and Recreation for a project, in the amount of \$52,673, to replace the amphitheater seating and two air conditioning ventilators at Charles S. Farnsworth Park.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find the proposed actions exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, for the reasons cited herein.
2. Allocate \$52,673 in County Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the Charles S. Farnsworth Park Refurbishment Project.

3. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to award a grant to the Department, when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grant as of the date of this action, and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$52,673 in County Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District, to the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department), for the project at Charles S. Farnsworth Park.

The Charles S. Farnsworth Park Refurbishment Project consists of the replacement of decaying amphitheater seating and the replacement of two air conditioning unit ventilators for the park's Davies Building. The total project cost is \$66,200, and includes the \$52,673 in County Excess Funds and \$13,527 in Quimby Accumulated Capital Outlay Funds.

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The Department meets this requirement.

In a related item on today's agenda, the Chief Executive Office recommends that your Board, in its capacity as the County's Board of Supervisors, approve the Charles S. Farnsworth Refurbishment Project.

It is also recommended that the Director of Parks and Recreation be authorized to award the grant to the Department when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, and to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by your Board.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC GOALS

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal No. 1 (Operational Effectiveness), Goal No. 2 (Children, Family, and Adult Well-Being), and Goal No. 3 (Community and Municipal Services), by enhancing recreational opportunities in the Fifth District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant, in the amount of \$52,673 is budgeted in the Fifth Supervisorial District portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant would be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District from Excess Funds for County projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation would be authorized to award a grant when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

Your Board approved a Procedural Guide on June 17, 1997, to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District grants for Specified and Per Parcel projects. This Procedural Guide would appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grant as well.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Grant Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director of Parks and Recreation and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 1997. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded through the District, but are required for the refurbishment of the amphitheater seating and two air conditioning ventilators at Charles S. Farnsworth Park in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

The Honorable Board of Directors
April 14, 2009
Page 4

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District are required to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency for the Farnsworth Park Refurbishment Project.

The proposed Charles S. Farnsworth Refurbishment Project is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Sections 15302 (c) and 15331 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 2(e) of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the proposed projects provide for replacement of an existing utility system involving no expansion of capacity and rehabilitation of historical resources.

The proposed administrative actions are not subject to CEQA in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Sections 15378 (b)(4)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines, because the actions are administrative activities for government grants which by their terms do not involve any commitments to any specific projects which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of these actions to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:RR:LB:REGIONALPARKANDOPENSPOCEDISTRICT(FARNSWORTH BL6)

c: Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)
County Counsel